Corporation of Delhi, the building plans of the school submitted by Moti Bagh Mutual Fund Aid Education (Vidya Niketan) Society have not been approved by them. The MCD has also informed that the matter involves change in the layout plan and certain relaxations of the stipulations of Master Plan of Delhi 2001 in respect of area of plot; and hence the delay.

National Policy on Urban Development

2583. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating a comprehensive national policy on urban development;

(b) how Government intend to ensure that such a policy is followed by the State Governments; and

(c) whether the provisions of Five Year Plan do not constitute the National Policy on Urban Development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The process for formulating a comprehensive national policy for urban development has been initiated. Urbanisation patterns and problems in India vary widely between States, being dependent on widely differing socio-economic conditions, resource endowments and historical, geographical, cultural and institutional factors. In view of these, no meaningful formulation of a national urban policy is possible without a realistic appraisal of the trends and issues of urban development at State and Regional levels. Therefore, as a first step, and exercise to develop State urban development strategy papers has been started. Preparation of a national policy on urban development is to be done by a process of consultations with State Governments and after series of deliberations and discussions. The process is expected to ensure adoption of the policy by the State Governments.

(c) The Five Year Plans in the past have provided for certain strategies and approaches to deal with important urban sector problems and have not spelt out a defined and comprehensive urban development policy.

Underground Air-Conditioned Market in Subhash Park

2584. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct underground airconditioned market in the Subhash Park near Darya Ganj;

(b) whether such a proposal is not in total violation of the Delhi Master Plan and policy of de-congesting the Walled City; and

(c) how does the matter stand at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (c) There is no proposal under consideration of MCD as regards construction of underground airconditioned market in Subhash Park near Darya Ganj, Delhi.

(b) Question does not arise.

Insufficient Fund for Urban Poverty Alleviation Programmes

2585. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds earmarked for the urban poverty alleviation programmes, has been considerably reduced;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is planning to use this fund to other centres; and

(d) if so, what measures Government propose to take for the success of the Urban poverty alleviation programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) (i) The Nehru Rozgar Yojna (NRY) and (ii) Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) are the two Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme. Since the